# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

Dawn Gray, : Civil Action No.: 4:14-cv-00188

Plaintiff,

v.

Conn Appliances, Inc.,

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT** 

For this Complaint, the Plaintiff, Dawn Gray, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

## **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This action arises out of Defendant's repeated violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et. seq. (the "TCPA").
- 2. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that Defendant transacts business here, Plaintiff resides in this judicial district, and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred here.

## **PARTIES**

- 3. The Plaintiff, Dawn Gray ("Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in Arlington, Texas, and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(10).
- 4. Defendant Conn Appliances, Inc. ("Conn"), is a Texas business entity with an address of 4055 Technology Forest Boulevard, Suite 210, The Woodlands, Texas 77381-2008, and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(10).

# **FACTS**

- 5. Beginning in or about October 2013, Conn started calling Plaintiff five to six times a day on her cellular phone.
- 6. At all times mentioned herein, Conn contacted Plaintiff using an automated telephone dialer system ("ATDS" or "predictive dialer") and/or by using an artificial or prerecorded voice.
- 7. When she answered the calls, Plaintiff heard a prerecorded message stating "This is Conn Appliances. We are calling for Dawn Gray. If you are this person, press 1, if not press 2..."
- 8. In or around December 15, 2013, Plaintiff followed Conn's prompt to speak with a live representative. During this conversation, Plaintiff requested Conn cease calling her cellular phone.
- 9. Nonetheless, Conn continued to hound Plaintiff with ATDS calls on her cellular phone.
- 10. If at one time Conn had obtained Plaintiff's express consent to place calls to her cellular telephone, it no longer had consent after Plaintiff requested that the calls cease.
  - 11. The calls from Conn were not placed for emergency purposes.

#### **COUNT I**

# <u>VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT – 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.</u>

12. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.

- 13. Defendant contacted Plaintiff using an automatic telephone dialing system and/or by using a prerecorded or artificial message on a cellular telephone of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii).
- 14. Plaintiff either never provided express consent to Defendant or the Creditor to call her cellular telephone number, or Plaintiff revoked her consent to be contacted by Defendant on her cellular telephone by her repeated demands to cease calling her cellular telephone.
- 15. The calls from Defendant to Plaintiff were not placed for "emergency purposes" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(i).
- 16. Each of the aforementioned calls made by Defendant constitutes a negligent or intentional violation of the TCPA, including each of the aforementioned provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227, et. seq.
- 17. As a result of each of Defendant's negligent violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages for each call in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).
- 18. As a result of each of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of treble damages in an amount up to \$1,500.00 for each and every violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

**WHEREFORE**, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant:

1. Statutory damages of \$500.00 for each violation determined to be negligent pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A);

- 2. Treble damages for each violation determined to be willful and/or knowing pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C); and
- 3. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

#### TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: March 17, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ Jody B. Burton

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